

Executive to Director

7 October 1946

Chief, Legislative Liaison Branch

Merger of British Armed Services

1. Attention is called to the publication in London on 4 October 1946 of a British Government White Paper announcing that the three services of the British armed forces will be coordinated under a single Ministry of Defense to be headed by Mr. A. V. Alexander.

2. The White Paper announced that Parliament, when it convenes this week, will be asked to create the new Cabinet position of Minister of Defense.

3. Under this plan the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Secretaries of State for War and Air will lose their Cabinet status. However, they will continue to function as heads of their respective services.

4. The functions of the Defense Ministry will include interservice organizations, including the Joint Intelligence Bureau.

5. In addition, the press reports the functions of the new Defense Ministry to include the general apportionment of available resources, the framing of a general policy for research and development, the correlation of production programs, and the settlement of questions of general administration where a common policy for the three services is desirable.

6. Query whether it is desired that the undersigned attempt to secure a copy of the White Paper and any other information concerning the Joint Intelligence Bureau reorganization through the British Embassy or other channels.

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Chief, Legislative Liaison Branch

WLP:shgf

A NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY AND**A BILL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

DECLARATION OF POLICY**Sec. 1. (a) Findings and Declaration.--**

In order effectively to accomplish the ~~national~~^{foreign} intelligence mission by supplying the President of the United States, the Secretaries of State, War, and the Navy, and such other officials of governmental departments and agencies as shall be appropriate with foreign intelligence, a centralized intelligence service is required by the United States. This service should produce ^{foreign} intelligence necessary to enable the appropriate officials of the Government to be ^{fully} informed in their dealings with other nations, and to enable these officials to formulate national policies and plans which this Government is to pursue in order to avert future armed conflicts and assure the common defense and security of the United States. This ^{foreign} intelligence is also needed so that the appropriate officials may recommend to the Congress of the United States such legislation as is necessary to assure the common defense and security and to avert future armed conflicts. The accomplishment of this service is ^{in connection with national foreign policy} ^(through a comprehensive and continuous program) ^(uncoordinated) the ^{foreign} intelligence mission of the United States.

Experience during and following two World Wars has proven that the decentralization of the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of foreign intelligence information among many departments and agencies of the Government is unsatisfactory. This experience has shown the need for a centralized intelligence service, so that all the intelligence sources and facilities of the Government may be utilized in the production of foreign intelligence to the greatest extent, and their fullest potentialities realized most economically in accomplishing the national intelligence mission.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the people of the United States, that, subject at all times to the paramount objective of assuring the common defense and security, and in order to strengthen the hand of the Government in formulating national policies and relations with other nations, ~~and in order to assist the Legislative branch of the Government in formulating and enacting legislation in the interests of the welfare of the people~~, a National Intelligence Authority is herein established to give policy direction to a Central Intelligence Agency (also herein ~~not~~ established) in the planning, development, and coordination of all Federal foreign intelligence activities necessary for the effective accomplishment

with Mr. Edgar's
Comments.
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*operation of those
foreign intelligence activities which
it is determined can best be
centrally, the*

ment of the national intelligence mission. The Central Intelligence Agency shall in turn be charged with the collection and evaluation of foreign intelligence information, and the dissemination of the resulting foreign intelligence (insofar as it shall be determined that this can best be performed centrally), and with the over-all coordination and direction of the other foreign intelligence activities of this Government.

Section 1. (b) Purpose of Act.--

It is the purpose of this Act to effectuate the policies set out in Section 1 (a) by providing, among others, for the following major programs relating to intelligence ~~and for their implementation,~~ ^{foreign}

- (1) A program for the operation of such intelligence services of the Federal Government as the National Intelligence Authority determines can best be performed centrally.
- (2) A program for the planning, development, and coordination of all Federal foreign intelligence activities.
- (3) A program for the collection of foreign information by any and all means deemed effective, ~~including overt, semi-covert and clandestine methods.~~
- (4) A program of research and evaluation of the information collected ^{President,} in order to produce intelligence for the appropriate departments and agencies of the Federal Government.
- (5) A program for the dissemination of the intelligence produced to ^{the} the appropriate departments and agencies of the Federal government.
- (6) A program for the full administration and execution of the above.